

Amtd. dated May 4, 2004
Reply to Office action of February 5, 2004

Serial No. 09/870,326
Docket No. TUC920010023US1
Firm No. 0018.0093

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-45 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 2, 16, 17, 31, and 32 have been amended. Reconsideration is respectfully requested. Applicant submits that the pending claims 1-45 are patentable over the art of record and allowance is respectfully requested of claims 1-45.

Applicant would like to thank Examiner Vu for holding a telephone conference with his representative, Janaki K. Davda, on April 19, 2004. Proposed claim amendments to claim 1 and the cited prior art were discussed. Certain proposed claim amendments (discussed in the Examiner's Interview Summary mailed on April 23, 2004) were indicated as appearing to overcome the teachings of the prior art. Certain other proposed claim amendments were indicated as raising 112, first paragraph issues, and Applicant has modified the proposed claim amendments to preclude a 112, first paragraph rejection.

In paragraph 2, the Office Action rejects claims 1-11, 14-26, 29-41, and 44-45 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Bardmessenger (U.S. Patent No. 5,986,992) and Lavey Jr., et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,023,698). Applicant traverses these rejections for the following reasons.

Claim 1 describes receiving a request for status information on a resource and determining an operation being performed with respect to the resource, wherein the operation is one of a management operation for the resource. For example, a RAID manager may perform RAID management operations (e.g., see Applicant's Specification at page 4, lines 11-13). The operations include rebuilding storage space or logical drives in response to a reconfiguration of a logical array, such as adding or removing storage space, or in response to a failure (e.g., see Applicant's Specification at page 5, lines 8-11).

Claim 1 also describes generating data to display a progress bar indicating a percent of the operation that has completed, wherein a first part of the progress bar indicates a percent of the

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operation that has completed and a second part of the progress bar indicates a percent of the operation that has not completed. An attribute of the operation is determined, wherein the determined attribute indicates a reason the operation is being performed. For example, the reason for the operation may be that a rebuilding operation is being performed to provide a different configuration of the storage space or that rebuilding is being performed to rebuild an array after a failure (e.g., see Applicant's Specification at page 6, line 25-page7, line 4). The reason for an operation is distinct from the operation itself.

Then, data is generated to display information with one of the first part or second part of the progress bar indicating the determined attribute of the operation, wherein the data to display information indicating the determined attribute of the operation indicates a reason the operation is being performed and wherein the data to display the progress bar indicates a percent of the operation that has completed and a percent of the operation that has not completed. For example, Applicant's Specification at page 2, lines 1-4, indicates that the attribute is capable of having one of multiple values and wherein different information is displayed for each attribute. Also, Applicant's Specification at page 2, lines 9-10 indicates that different colors are associated with the different attribute values. Different techniques may be used to convey the state or attributes associated with the portions of the progress bar, including textual information displayed with the portions and different shapes or designs used for the different portions (e.g., see Applicant's Specification at page 11, lines 19-24). As an example, the area of the progress bar occupied by the moving and uncompleted portions indicate the percentage of resources associated with those portions of the bar and the color in which the bar is displayed represents a state or attribute associated with the resource on which the operation is performed (e.g., see Applicant's Specification at page 11, lines 15-18). Thus, the data generated to display information indicating the determined attribute (i.e., the reason for the operation) is distinct from data used to indicate a percent of an operation that has completed or has not completed.

The Bardmesser patent describes that FIG. 5 shows a Full/Empty gauge display in which a darkened region of a horizontal band indicates the percentage of disk space currently occupied

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with data; FIG. 6 shows a pie chart display where a darkened region shows the fraction of disk space used; and FIG. 7 shows characters that indicate the capacity of the disk cartridge. (Col. 4, lines 5-19; FIGs. 5-7). The Bardmesser patent does not teach or suggest, for example, determining an operation being performed with respect to the resource, wherein the operation is one of a management operation for the resource, determining an attribute of the operation, wherein the determined attribute indicates a reason the operation is being performed, and generating data to display information with one of the first part or second part of the progress bar indicating the determined attribute of the operation, wherein the data to display information indicating the determined attribute of the operation indicates a reason the operation is being performed and wherein the data to display the progress bar indicates a percent of the operation that has completed and a percent of the operation that has not completed.

The Lavey patent describes a status bar that communicates the status of a data transfer to a user (Col. 6, lines 19-23; FIG. 2C). The status bar of FIG. 2C illustrates a download status bar. A download operation is not equivalent to the claimed management operation for a resource.

Also, the Office Action indicates that a percent completed is an attribute of an operation. However, the claimed attribute indicates a reason the operation is being performed, and the percent in the Lavey patent does not provide a reason for the download operation. That is, Applicant's claimed operation and reason are distinct.

Certain language of claim 2 has been incorporated into claim 1. With reference to claim 2, the Office Action indicates that the Lavey patent teaches a reason the operation is being performed with "download information". Applicant traverses. The Lavey patent describes an operation (i.e., a download operation) without providing a reason for the download operation.

Moreover, claim 1 describes that the data to display information indicates the determined attribute of the operation and wherein the data to display the progress bar indicates a percent of the operation that has completed and a percent of the operation that has not completed. Thus, the data to display information indicating the determined attribute of the operation is different from

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the data to display the percent of the operation that has completed or not completed in the progress bar. Again, the operation is distinct from the reason for the operation.

Therefore, claim 1 is not taught or suggested by the Bardmesser or Lavey patents, either alone or in combination. Claims 16 and 31 are not taught or suggested by the Bardmesser or Lavey patents, either alone or in combination, for at least the same reasons as were discussed with respect to claim 1.

Dependent claims 2-11, 14-15, 17-26, 29-30, 32-41, and 44-45 incorporate the language of independent claims 1, 16, and 31 and add additional novel elements. Therefore, dependent claims 2-11, 14-15, 17-26, 29-30, 32-41, and 44-45 are not taught or suggested by the Bardmesser or Lavey patents, either alone or in combination, for at least the same reasons as were discussed with respect to claims 1, 16, and 31.

For example, claim 2 describes that the operation is a rebuild operation and that the determined attribute indicates whether the reason the operation is being performed is to reconfigure a storage space or as part of a failure recovery operation. Neither the Bardmesser nor the Lavey patent describe a rebuild operation or such reasons for the rebuild operation.

Claim 3 describes that the determined attribute, which indicates a reason for the operation, is capable of having one of multiple values, wherein the data to display the information indicating the determined attribute further indicates the determined attribute value, wherein different information is displayed for each attribute value. The Office Action indicates that the Lavey patent teaches a percentage. A percentage does not teach or suggest that a reason for an operation or that there are multiple values (i.e., multiple reasons) for the operation.

Claim 5 describes displaying the first or second part of the bar in a manner that conveys the information indicating the determined attribute value of the operation. The Office Action indicates that the Lavey patent teaches a dotted area. The dotted area of the Lavey patent indicates the percentage of download completed, but does not provide an attribute that indicates a reason for the operation.

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Claim 6 describes displaying the first or second part of the bar in a color that is associated with the determined attribute value of the operation, wherein there are different colors associated with different attribute values. The Office Action indicates that the Lavey patent describes a dotted area and a blank area. Again, the dotted area and blank area indicate a percentage of the download completed and not completed, respectively, but they do not teach or suggest an attribute that indicates a reason for the operation.

Claim 7 describes that the resource comprises a storage device and the operation comprises a formatting operation performed with respect to the storage device and claim 8 describes that the determined attribute is capable of indicating one of multiple possible sources of the formatting operation, wherein the generated data to display the information indicating the determined attribute further indicates the determined source of the formatting operation, and wherein different information is displayed for each different source. The Office Action indicates that the Bardmesser patent teaches that the resource is a storage device, but the Office Action is silent on how an attribute is capable of indicating one of multiple possible sources of a formatting operation, generating data to display the information indicating the determined attribute that indicates the determined source of the formatting operation, and displaying different information for each different source. Applicant submits that these elements are not taught or suggested by the cited art.

Claim 9 depends from claim 8 and further describes that the formatting operation comprises a rebuild operation to reconstruct a storage space in the storage device, wherein the source of the formatting operation is capable of comprising a modification to the configuration or a failure within the storage device. The Office Action indicates that the Bardmesser patent teaches configuration of a device with FIG. 7. FIG. 7 shows characters that indicate the capacity of the disk cartridge. (Col. 4, lines 17-19; FIG. 7) This does not teach or suggest the subject matter of claim 9.

Claim 10 depends from claim 9 and describes displaying the first or second part of the bar in a color that is associated with the determined source of the rebuild operation. Since neither the

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Bardmesser patent nor the Lavey patent determine a source of a rebuild operation, neither teaches or suggests the subject matter of claim 10.

In paragraph 2, the Office Action rejects claims 12-13, 27-28, and 42-43 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Bardmesser (U.S. Patent No. 5,986,992) and Lavey Jr., et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,023,698) and Stallmo et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,911,779). Applicant traverses these rejections for the following reasons.

The Stallmo patent does not cure the deficiencies of the Bardmesser and Lavey patents. For example, the Stallmo patent does not teach or suggest determining an operation being performed with respect to the resource, wherein the operation is one of a management operation for the resource, determining an attribute of the operation, wherein the determined attribute indicates a reason the operation is being performed, and generating data to display information with one of the first part or second part of the progress bar indicating the determined attribute of the operation, wherein the data to display information indicates the determined attribute of the operation and wherein the data to display the progress bar indicates a percent of the operation that has completed and a percent of the operation that has not completed. Therefore, the neither the Bardmesser, Lavey, or Stallmo patents, either alone or together, teaches or suggests the subject matter of claims 1, 16, and 31.

Dependent claims 12-13, 27-28, and 42-43 incorporate the language of independent claims 1, 16, and 31 and add additional novel elements. Therefore, dependent claims 12-13, 27-28, and 42-43 are not taught or suggested by the Bardmesser or Lavey or Stallmo patents, either alone or in combination, for at least the same reasons as were discussed with respect to claims 1, 16, and 31.

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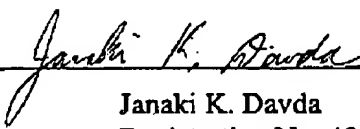
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Conclusion

For all the above reasons, Applicant submits that the pending claims 1-45 are patentable over the art of record. Applicant has not added any claims. Nonetheless, should any additional fees be required, please charge Deposit Account No. 09-0449.

The attorney of record invites the Examiner to contact her at (310) 553-7973 if the Examiner believes such contact would advance the prosecution of the case.

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